

July 16, 1897

## SOME LIVING PIONEERS

William Gardner, the subject of this sketch was a pioneer and son of a pioneer. His father was born in Scotland, October 12, 1819, and emigrated to Canada with his parents afterwards, journeying to Nauvoo, arriving there in 1846.

Mr. Gardner, with his family, followed the trail of the Mormons across the state of Iowa. On May 22, 1846, the company camped near Bonaparte in a terrible rain storm. The water flooded around the wagons and out of doors, exposed to the inclemency of the weather the boy William was born on the above date. The family subsequently journeyed onward overtaking the main body of Saints near the Missouri river. In the spring of '47 they left Winter Quarters, traveling across the prairies with ox teams.

While traveling near Fort Bridger the child William fell out of the wagon and two of the hind wheels ran over his ankles. Elders administered to him and poultices were made of Ceder berries and he recovered in a remarkable manner and in a few days was quite well. His parents felt that his life was providentially saved for a good purpose.

The Gardner family arrived in Salt Lake valley October 1, 1847.

William Gardner has ever been an active and energetic citizen and has occupied many positions of trust.

He has filled Two missions, aggregating seven years and a half, amongst the Maoris of New Zealand, and for several years was bishop of Pine Valley ward in southern Utah where he now resides.

His father Robert Gardner is a veteran pioneer and is still living and proudly states that he has had 37 children, 27 of whom are still living and has also 122 grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

The writer spent several years in New Zealand with Bishop William Gardner and can testify that he is a worthy son of a worthy sire, and should therefore be classed amongst notable pioneers.

*Copied from Pen Sketch  
by Grant Robert Gardner  
Jan 1997  
Given to RRG 19 Jan 1997  
in 6th Ward Priesthood Meeting*

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